

# TELEGRAM

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Foreign Service of the  
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ACTION

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Classification

Control: SAO PAULO 373

Recd: MAY 1, 1969

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ACTION TAKEN

SUBJECT: FORCED RETIREMENT OF ACTING RECTOR AND PROFESSORS  
UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO

REF: RIO'S 3198

Declassified  
Authority: 43265  
By: Amanda Weimer  
Date: 05-13-2015

1. UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO HIT BY FORCED RETIREMENT UNDER  
IA-5 OF ACTING RECTOR, HELIO LOURENCO DE OLIVEIRA, AND APPROX-  
IMATELY 25 PROFESSORS, MOST OF WHOM WELL-KNOWN, RESPECTED  
INDIVIDUALS. RECTOR APPARENTLY KNEW HE BEING FORCED OUT AND  
HE THEREFORE ANTICIPATED ACTION BY REQUESTING THE GOB TO RE-  
CONSIDER THE FORCED RETIREMENT OF THREE OTHER WELL-KNOWN USP  
PROFESSORS, FLORESTAN FERNANDES, JAYME TIMONO, AND JOAO BAP-  
TISTA VILANOVA ARTIGAS. (SEE REFTEL).

2. ONLY KNOWN COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBER ON LIST WAS NOTORIOUS  
PHYSICS PROFESSOR, MARIO SCHENBERG. CAIO PRADO JUNIOR RE-  
PORTEDLY ASSOCIATED WITH COMMUNISTS, AND JOSE GIANOTTI ALLEGEDLY  
MARRIED TO A COMMUNIST, REYNALDO CHIAVERINI FORMERLY CONNECTED  
WITH USSR-BRAZIL CULTURAL SOCIETY. OTHER WELL-KNOWN NAMES ON  
LIST ARE CONSIDERED MODERATES AND WERE GOOD CONTACTS OF CONGEN-,  
AS WELL AS OUTSTANDING IN THEIR FIELDS. FOR EXAMPLE, ISAIAS  
RAW, BIO-CHEMISTRY, WHO HAS CARRIED OUT VARIOUS PROJECTS FOR  
AID; ECONOMICS PROFESSOR OCTAVIOSRANNI; ECONOMICS PROFESSOR  
PAULO SINGER WHO STUDIED AT PRINCETON; ECT OMICS PROFESSOR  
PEDRO CALIL WHO WAS ACTIVELY ANTI-MARXIST AND WAS SEEKING TO  
BRING TOGETHER ECONOMICS PROFESSORS OF VARIOUS PERSUASIONS TO  
COUNTERACT EXTREMES.

3. [REDACTED]  
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4. COMMENT: UNIVERSITY OF SAO PAULO HAS BEEN DEALT A HARD

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BLOW, THROUGH LOSS OF SCIENTIFIC AND TEACHING TALENT, AND ACTING RECTOR WHO CONGEN CONSIDERED BEST IN RECENT YEARS (SEE MEMCON DATED MARCH 28 BETWEEN DPO AND OLIVEIRA). AS PREDICTED IN THAT MEMCON, OBSERVERS BELIEVED OLIVEIRA MIGHT BE FORCED OUT BY HARD-LINERS WHO CONSIDERED HIM TOO SOFT, AND WHO OPPOSED HIS CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE TOWARD STUDENTS. OLIVEIRA WAS ONE OF MOST ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATORS USP HAS HAD AND WAS DEDICATED TO MODERNIZING AND REFORMING UNIVERSITY STRUCTURE. REPORTEDLY ACTION AGAINST RECTOR AND JANME TIMONO WAS RESULT PERSONAL VENDETTA BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

5. MASS ROUNDUP OF USP STUDENTS APPARENTLY CARRIED OUT TO PREVENT PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS BECAUSE OF FORCED RESIGNATIONS OF RECTOR AND THE 25 PROFESSORS, WHO WERE POPULAR WITH STUDENTS. MILITARY AND CIVILIAN HARD-LINERS WHO FORCED ACTION AGAINST USP CLAIM PROFESSORS REMOVED WERE "BAD INFLUENCE ON STUDENTS."

6. CONGEN AWARE THAT PROFESSOR RAW ALREADY HAD TICKET TO THE UNITED STATES, FLORESTAN FERNANDES REPORTED ALREADY HIRED BY HARVARD, AND WE MAY EXPECT RATHER LARGE EXODUS THESE PROFESSORS TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES.

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